

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY TREASURY:GLPARSKY:PM

APPROVED BY NEA/EGY:HFMATTHEWS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 250213

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN

SUBJECT: PARSKY TRIP TO KUWAIT

FOR AMBASSADOR EILTS

1. AS YOU KNOW, I DISCUSSED WITH PRIME MINISTER HEGAZI, MINISTER TAHIR AMIN AND OTHERS THE CONCEPT OF TRIANGULAR INVESTMENT AND THE FACT THAT I WOULD BE GOING TO KUWAIT TO DISCUSS IT. DR. HEGAZI AND TAHIR AMIN ARE PLANNING TO VISIT KUWAIT AND SAUDI ARABIA AROUND NOVEMBER 15 AND I TOLD THEM I WOULD LET THEM KNOW OF THE RESULTS OF MY TRIP BEFORE THEY LEFT. I WOULD SUMMARIZE THE KUWAITI ATTITUDE AS FOLLOWS:

2. THE KUWAITIS WANT TO INCREASE THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN EGYPT - BOTH WITH RESPECT TO ADDITIONAL AID AND INVESTMENT. THEY ARE CONCERNED, HOWEVER, ABOUT THE EGYPTIAN COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING THEIR ECONOMY AND PROVIDING THE NECESSARY CLIMATE FOR INVESTMENT. THEY THINK A GREAT DEAL OF DR. HEGAZI AND TAHIR AMIN, BUT WORRY ABOUT THE MASSIVE BUREAUCRACY

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BELOW THEM.

3. THEY WOULD LIKE U.S. INVOLVEMENT WITH THEM IN PROJECTS. THEY WANT TO INVEST IN THE MOST FEASIBLE ONES AND FEEL THAT BRINGING IN U.S. TECHNOLOGY WILL HELP GREATLY.

4. THEY FEEL THAT EGYPT LACKS THE CAPACITY TO DEVELOP ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENT PROPOSALS AND WELCOMED THE IDEA OF THE U.S. HELPING TO BUILD IT, ESPECIALLY IN THE FEASIBILITY STUDY AREA.

5. THEY WOULD LIKE THE SPECIFICS OF TWO OR THREE PROJECTS WHICH WOULD INVOLVE THE TRIANGULAR CONCEPT. I SPOKE WITH THEM ABOUT THE SHEET GLASS AND PAPER PULP PROJECTS AS POTENTIALS AND THEY WANTED US TO DEVELOP A COMPLETE PROPOSAL.

6. I THINK THAT WE NEED TO DEVELOP TWO OR THREE PILOT PROJECTS WORKING WITH AMBASSADOR STOLTZFUS TO BRING THESE TO THE KUWAITIS.

7. TAHIR AMIN ALSO TOLD ME ABOUT HIS REQUEST TO KUWAIT TO INCREASE THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE OPENING OF THE SUEZ CANAL FROM DOLS 33 MILLION TO DOLS 53 MILLION. HE ASKED ME TO MENTION IT IN KUWAIT. PLEASE TELL HIM THAT I DID DISCUSS IT WITH ABDLATIF AL-HAMAD WHO SAID HE WOULD PROBABLY SEND SOME EXPERTS TO EGYPT TO LOOK AT PROJECTS BUT THAT HE WAS INCLINED TO GO ALONG.

8. FINALLY, PLEASE TELL TAHIR AMIN THAT I EMPHASIZED EGYPT'S DESIRES TO ATTRACT INVESTMENT AND THAT ANY OBSTACLES THAT KUWAIT MAY PERCEIVE SHOULD BE DISCUSSED FREELY WITH THE EGYPTIANS.

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